

Message Text

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62

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 DRC-01 /132 W

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R 121903Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4243

INFO USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 8222

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: PINT, AR

SUBJECT: PERON MEETS WITH HORA DEL PUEBLO

1. SUMMARY: PERON'S LUNCHEON NOV 11 FOR LEADERS OF HRA DEL PUEBLO WAS PROBABLY PROMOTED BY SECRETARY GENERAL OF PRESIDENCY VICENTE SOLANO LIMA IN ORDER TO STRENGTHEN SPIRIT OF BIPARTISANSHIP IN GOVERNMENT AND THUS HIS OWN POSITION. END SUMMARY.

2. ON SUNDAY, NOV 11, PERON INVITED THE VARIOUS LEADERS OF THE PARTIES COMPRISING THE HORA DEL PUEBLO TO A LUNCHEON IN THE PRESIDENTIAL RESIDENCE TO COMMEMORATE THE THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE ORGANIZATION. THE LUNCHEON WAS ATTENDED BY SUCH FIGURES AS RICARDO BALBIN OF THE UCR, HORACIO THEDY OF THE PROGRESSIVE DEMOCRATIC PARTY, AND SOLANO LIMA OF THE POPULAR CONSERVATIVE PARTY. FOLLOWING THE LUNCHEON PARTICIPANTS INDICATED THEY HAD ESTABLISHED A BROAD DIALOGUE BUT INDICATED THAT THE MEETING HAD NO SPECIFIC POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS. THE LATTER DISCLAIMER WAS OBVIOUSLY IN RESPONSE TO SPECULATION EARLIER IN THE WEEK THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE LUNCHEON WAS TO ESTABLISH THE "COUNCIL OF STATE" TO WHICH PERON HAD FREQUENTLY REFERRED BEFORE THE ELECTIONS.

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3. SOURCES CLOSE TO SOLANO LIMA TELL US LUNCHEON WAS PROMOTED

PRINCIPALLY BY LATTER IN ORDER TO STRENGTHEN HIS OWN POSITION.
HE BELIEVES THAT THE STRONGER PERON'S COMMITMENT TO BIPARTI-
SANISM, THE MORE TENABLE HIS OWN POSITION WITHIN THE GOVERN-
MENT. ACCORDING TO SAME SOURCES, LIMA IS WELL AWARE THAT ECONO-
MICS MINISTER GELBARD AND SOCIAL WELFARE MINISTER LOPEZ REGA
HAVE NOW REACHED UNDERSTANDING AND HAVE COMBINED FORCES TO COUNTER
WHAT HAD BEEN LIMA'S POSITION OF GROWING STRENGTH WITHIN THE
GOVERNMENT. AS SOURCES PUT IT. "BELOW PERON THERE ARE NOW ONLY
TWO POLES OF POWER WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT--ISABELITA, LOPEZ REGA,
AND GELBARD ON THE ONE HAND, AND
SOLANO LIMA ON THE OTHER.
KREBS

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30 JUN 2005

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